THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Wool Growers

6624. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign wool growers seek India's help to tap the vast Japanese market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) As far as the Ministry of Textiles could ascertain, no specific group of foreign wool growers has sought India's help to tap the Japanese market.

(b) and (d) Does not arise.

Vacant Posts

6625. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees of Grade-I and II in the offices of Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals, Department of supply and National Test House as on December 31, 1996 separately;

(b) the number of SCs/STs/OBCs amongst them;

(c) the reasons for not fulfilling the quota reserved for them; and

(d) the efforts made during the last three years to fill up the quota reserved for the above categories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) The requisite details are furnished below :-

Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals

Group 'A' (i.e. Grade-I)-226; SC-37: ST-7: OBC-Nil
Group 'B' (i.e. Grade-II)-605; SC-65: ST-8: OBC-Nil

Department of Supply

Group 'A' (i.e. Grade-I)-17; SC-5: ST-1: OBC-Nil
Group 'B' (i.e. Grade-II)-54; SC-4: ST-1: OBC-1

National Test House

Group 'A' (i.e. Grade-I)-64; SC-15: ST-1: OBC-Nil
Group 'B' (i.e. Grade-II)-159; SC-15: ST-Nil: OBC-2

(c) Wherever there is a shortfall in the quota, it is due to non-availability of candidates where Direct Recruitment is involved and due to non-availability of eligible feeder grade officials, where promotion is involved.

(d) For Direct Recruitment Quota, requisitions have been placed with the UPSC/SSC, indicating the reservation position as applicable under the Rules. Similarly for promotion quota, all Departmental Promotion Committees have considered the claims of available SC's/ST's, under the Rules.

[Translation]

Production of Coal

6626. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of coal produced by major coal companies-Coal India Ltd., Neyveli Lignite Corporation and Singreni Collieries in India during the last three years; and

(b) the total profit/loss by each company in during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The quantity of coal produced from the mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singreni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) during the last three years are as under :-

(million tonnes)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Provisional)
CIL	223.07	237.28	250.65
SCCL	25.65	26.77	28.73

Neyveli Lignite Corporation is producing Lignite. The details of production of Lignite during the last three years are as under :-

(Millions tonnes)

1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (provisional)
15.41	17.20	17.35

(b) Financial performance of CIL and SCCL for the year 1996-97 can be available only after the finalisation of accounts. However, figures of profit/loss of these companies for the years 1993-94 to 1995-96 are as under :-

Profit (+)/loss(–) (Figs. in Rs. crores) (after CPRA)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
CIL	400.32	29.73	611.44
SCCL	16.26	24.99	–190.80

Net profit earned by NCL during last three years is as under :-

1994-95 = Rs. 176.16 crores
1995-96 = Rs. 272.58 crores
1996-97 (Prov) = Rs. 294.56 crores

[English]

Coffee Plantation in Non-Traditional

6627. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether coffee plantation has started in Orissa, North-Eastern region and non-traditional States on experimental basis;

(b) if so, to what extent success has been achieved separately;

(c) the details of future programmes drawn up in this regard; and

(d) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Coffee cultivation in non-traditional states has been taken up since 1976 when a target of 72,000 ha. of Coffee plantation was envisaged in all the non-traditional states. Since then, a total of 20,830 ha. has been brought under coffee cultivation in these states. Coffee Board has continued coffee cultivation in the non-traditional states through its various research and extension programmes. The following are the State-wise details of area under plantation in non-traditional States.

Sl. No.	State	Planted Area (In ha.)	Bearing Area (In ha.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	1709.00	721.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	585.90	579.00
3.	Manipur	760.00	400.00
4.	Meghalaya	900.00	900.00
5.	Mizoram	2780.00	1252.00
6.	Nagaland	2650.00	850.00
7.	Tripura	726.40	506.50
8.	Andhra Pradesh	9311.54	8339.82
9.	Orissa	1407.00	356.60

(c) and (d) Coffee Board has proposed a comprehensive programme to support consolidation and expansion of coffee area in North-Eastern region and other non-trational areas which includes providing 50% subsidy for inputs and planting materials and assistance for marketing support during the Ninth Plan which is under finalisation.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Coal Sector

6628. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers unions engaged in Coal Industry are vehemently opposing the Governments decision regarding privatisation of this industry;

(b) whether coal workers and other workers unions have sent representations to Union Government in this regard and they are resorting to dharnas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c) The public sector trade unions affiliated to Centre of Indian Trade Union, All India Trade Union Congress and Hind Mazdoor Sabha had given a notice for a token one-day strike on 2.4.1997 on a charter of demands which included stoppage of privatisation of coal mines. On receipt of the strike notice, the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) was approached to intervene. However, the proposed strike was subsequently called off by the trade unions.

Representations from some trade unions opposing privatisation of coal industry were received. Two demonstrations on 3.3.1997 and 31.3.1997 were also staged at Calcutta on the same issue by the supporters of a few coal employees' unions.